



The Florida House of Representatives

Office of the Speaker

Richard Corcoran
Speaker

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Florida House of Representatives

FROM: Richard Corcoran, Speaker

DATE: June 2, 2017

RE: Special Session Scheduled for June 7-9

Today I am joining Governor Rick Scott and Senate President Joe Negron in announcing a special session scheduled for Wednesday, June 7 through Friday, June 9 to address economic programs and public education funding. The House will convene at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday. You will receive a copy of the official call and a travel authorization memo later today. We also expect that the Governor will release his line item vetoes later today.

During the regular session, we spent many hours debating the best way for government to stimulate and support a strong economic climate and continued job growth. All of us—whether we are running a business or running for office—want a sound and robust economy in our state. Working with the Governor, we have developed a path forward that will allow Florida to invest in economic growth without relying on inefficient corporate welfare policies. Rep. Paul Renner will introduce a bill for special session that will create the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund within the Department of Economic Opportunity. This program will provide \$85 million in new resources to be used for public infrastructure and workforce training. The bill will be a flexible fund that the Governor can use to help create the infrastructure and job skills necessary to support economic diversification for targeted industries or for specific regions of the state. The bill will require that funds be used for

broad public value and not for the exclusive benefit for any one company. We believe that this new tool can become a model for the nation.

In addition, we all share a common interest in supporting Florida's vital tourism industry while insuring that taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly. Rep. Renner's bill will also include funding for Visit Florida in FY 2017-18 at \$76 million, which is the same spending level as FY 2016-17, while maintaining the kind of strong accountability and transparency language passed in HB 5501.

The Governor and the Legislature share a common goal in having a strong, diversified K-12 education system. During the special session, Rep. Manny Diaz will file a bill to fund the FEFP at a \$100 per student increase over the previous fiscal year.

These new appropriations will all be paid for out of funds made available by the Governor's line item vetoes.

Finally, although the Governor has not included medical marijuana in the call for special session, the House has communicated to the that Senate that this is an issue we believe must be addressed and that we are prepared to expand the call to address the implementation of the constitutional amendment approved by the voters during the 2016 election. We will update you on those discussions as they develop.